



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/733,245	12/12/2003	Kenji Arai	246645US0	9467
22850 7590 01/26/2007 OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. 1940 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314			EXAMINER KUMAR, PREETI	
			ART UNIT 1751	PAPER NUMBER
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS			01/26/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/733,245

Applicant(s)

ARAI, KENJI

Examiner

Preeti Kumar

Art Unit

1751

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 October 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Final Rejection

1. Claims 1-18 are pending. Claims 11-18 are added in the amendment filed after non-final rejection dated 10/12/2006.

Priority

2. Applicants Declaration filed 4/27/2004 **specifically** does not claim priority to JP 2002-174400 application filed in Japan on June 14, 2002. Furthermore, acknowledgment cannot be made for foreign priority based on JP 2002-174400 application since applicant has not filed a certified copy of the JP 2002-174400 application as required by 35 U.S.C. 119(b).

Response to Amendment

3. The objection of claim 4 is withdrawn in light of Applicants amendment.
4. The rejection of claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Midha et al. (US 5,911,979) is maintained. See the New grounds of rejection below addressing claims 1-18.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments filed 10/12/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicants urge that the reference teaches a myriad of possible combinations of hydrocarbon oils and fatty esters, and does not teach or motivate one of ordinary skill to selectively choose the claimed alkylene glycol esters and formulate them to containing the specific constituent amounts of carbon atoms.

Contrary to Applicants arguments, Midha et al. recite the same formula I of the instant claims in col.6 and go on to teach the claimed long chain fatty glycol ester having 18 or more carbons, 16 carbons, and less than 16 carbons throughout col.21-22. See the office action below. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to arrive at an liquid detergent composition having the formula I, with alkylene glycol esters formulated with the claimed amounts of carbon atoms because the teachings of Midha et al. teach an analogous liquid detergent composition having the formula I with the analogous long chain ethylene glycol mono and di-fatty acid esters and furthermore Midha et al. teach combinations of fatty acid esters with about 10 to about 22 carbon atoms, (which range of carbon atoms is encompassed by the material limitations of the instant claims) and Midha et al. teach the analogous art of formulating a pearlescent liquid detergent.

New Grounds of Rejection

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States. 000

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and

Art Unit: 1751

the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

9. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Midha et al. (US 5,911,979).

Midha et al. teach an aqueous hair setting composition comprising 0.05 to about 5% of polyhydric alcohol esters include alkylene glycol esters, for example ethylene glycol mono and di-fatty acid esters, diethylene glycol mono- and di-fatty acid esters, polyethylene glycol mono- and di-fatty acid esters, propylene glycol mono- and di-fatty acid esters, polypropylene glycol monooleate, polypropylene glycol 2000 monostearate, ethoxylated propylene glycol monostearate, glyceryl mono- and di-fatty acid esters, polyglycerol poly-fatty acid esters, ethoxylated glyceryl monostearate, 1,3-butylene glycol monostearate, 1,3-butylene glycol distearate, polyoxyethylene polyol fatty acid ester, sorbitan fatty acid esters, and polyoxyethylene sorbitan fatty acid esters which teaching anticipates the material limitations of the instantly claimed long chain fatty acid glycol ester of formula 1 as recited in the claims 1-3 and 8 having R' and R as alkynyl radicals with the sum of carbon atoms being preferably at least 20. See col.21, ln.15-20 and col.22,ln.30-50. Specifically, Midha et al. teach 0.05% to about 5% of conditioning

Art Unit: 1751

oils selected from fatty acid esters having at least 10 carbon atoms. This teaching encompasses the claimed limitation to 18 or more carbons, 16 carbons, and less than 16 carbons as recited by the instant claims.

Midha et al. teach that the pH of the aqueous pearlescing composition, The pH of the present compositions generally will be between about 3 and about 9, preferably between about 4 and about 8. See col.23,ln.24.

Midha et al. teach that the hair rinse/shampoo compositions comprise 0.05% to about 50% of anionic, nonionic, cationic, and amphoteric surfactants. See col.12,ln.67.

Midha et al. teach that the conditioning agent include mono-carboxylic acid ester including diisopropyl adipate, diisohexyl adipate, and diisopropyl sebacate and di- and tri-alkyl and alkenyl esters of carboxylic acids including succinic acid, glutaric acid, adipic acid, hexanoic acid, heptanoic acid, and octanoic acid. Specific examples include isocetyl stearyl stearate, diisopropyl adipate, and tristearyl citrate. See col.22,ln.10-15 and 33-40.

Midha et al. teach that the silicone hair conditioning agent will typically be used in the shampoo compositions at levels of from about 0.05% to about 10% by weight of the composition. Midha et al. teach that suitable insoluble, nonvolatile silicone fluids include polyalkyl siloxanes, polyaryl siloxanes, polyalkylaryl siloxanes, polyether siloxane copolymers, and mixtures thereof. Other insoluble, nonvolatile silicone fluids having hair conditioning properties can also be used. The term "nonvolatile" as used herein shall mean that the silicone material exhibits very low or no significant vapor pressure at ambient conditions, as is understood by those in the art. In general, this will mean no

Art Unit: 1751

more than 0.2 mm Hg at one atmosphere and 25 C. Specific examples include polydimethylsiloxane, (polydimethylsiloxane) (methylvinylsiloxane) copolymer, poly(dimethylsiloxane) (diphenyl siloxane)(methylvinylsiloxane) copolymer and mixtures thereof. See col.17,ln.27-40 and col.18,ln.43-47.

Accordingly, the teachings of Midha et al. anticipate the material limitations of the instant claims.

Alternatively, even if the broad teachings of Midha et al. are not sufficient to anticipate the material limitations of the instant claims, it would have been nonetheless obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, to arrive at the claimed aqueous liquid detergent composition comprising the long chain fatty acid glycol ester of formula 1 and a surfactant having a pH of from 1 to 5 at 25C when diluted to 20 times the weight with water because Midha et al. teach an aqueous detergent composition comprising ethylene glycol mono and di-fatty acid esters, diethylene glycol mono- and di-fatty acid esters and surfactant having a pH of between about 3 and about 9 in general.

Conclusion

10. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not


Art Unit: 1751

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Preeti Kumar whose telephone number is 571-272-1320. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00am - 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Douglas Mc Ginty can be reached on 571-272-1029. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


DOUGLAS MCGINTY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

Examiner Preeti Kumar *PK*
Art Unit 1751

1751